1	2
14.	Mexico
15.	Brazil
16.	Afghanistan
17.	Croatia
18.	Ecuador
19.	Rwanda
20.	South Africa
21.	Saudi Arabia
22.	China
23.	Portugal
24.	France

Religion in the school curricula

4156. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals to include essence of all important religions in the school curricula;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto,

(c) whether such a study will help to inculcate religious tolerance and respect for other religions in the minds of the students; and

(d) if so, the reasons why the proposal is not being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005, seeks guidance from the constitutional vision of India as a secular, egalitarian and pluralistic society, founded on the values of social justice and equality. NCF recommends for inculcation among children a respect for all people regardless of their beliefs. It points out that India is a multicultural society made up of numerous regional and local cultures. People's religious beliefs, ways of life and their understanding of social relationships are quite distinct from one

another. All groups have equal rights to co-exist and flourish and the education system needs to respond to the cultural pluralism inherent in our society.

(c) Studying of material on essence of all religions is expected to inculcate religious tolerance and respect to other religions in the minds of the students. Considering the prevailing diversity and the federal character of our nation, there is a need for serious engagement of all States/Union Territories (UTs) towards translation of ideas of NCF-2005 in reality through review of existing syllabi and textbooks. NCERT has already prepared syllabi for classes I to XII based on NCF-2005 and initiated a programme of financial support to States/UTs to undertake systematic review of syllabi and textbooks and to draw up a map for school reform along the lines of recommendations of NCF-2005.

(d) NCF-2005 has already addressed these issues.

Untrained teachers in primary education

4157. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that, on the basis of recent survey conducted by NCERT in collaboration of State Governments and National Informatics Centres, around 20 per cent of teachers in Primary Schools of the country are untrained;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of measures proposed to be taken by Government to ensure proper training to Primary School teachers in each Government school of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) As per the seventh All India School Education Survey conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), with reference date 30.9.2002, 21.41% of full-time teachers predominantly